



Your business
is our business.

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575
internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com

June 22, 2015

Accepted / Filed

JUN 22 2015

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Via Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **WC Docket No. 14-58**
2015 ETC Annual Report of Farmers Telecommunications Coop., Inc. (AL)
Study Area Code 250290

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Farmers Telecommunications Coop., Inc. (AL) ("Farmers"), JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules.¹ Farmers seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information.² The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. In addition, attached is a letter requesting confidential treatment under Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of its Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan as required by Section 54.313(a)(1).³

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+3
List ABCDE

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Protective Order, DA 15-712 rel. June 17, 2015 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, 54.313(a)(1).

Echelon Building II, Suite 200
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310
1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121
phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909

6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road
Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328
phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane
Bountiful, UT 84010
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124



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Washington, DC 20554

**Re: WC Docket No. 14-58
2015 ETC Annual Report of Farmers Telecommunications Coop., Inc. (AL)
Study Area Code 250290
Request for Confidentiality**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

John Staurulakis, Inc. ("JSI"), on behalf of its client Farmers Telecommunications Coop., Inc. (AL) ("Company") hereby requests, pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules,¹ withholding from public inspection certain information contained in an attachment to the above referenced reporting requirement. The Company provides the following in support of its request, numbered consistent with the subparagraphs of Section 0.459(b).²

1. The information for which the Company is seeking confidential treatment is an attachment to the Company's annual reporting information pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules ("Report").³
2. Pursuant to Section 54.313(a)(1), Rate-of-Return Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") must file with the Commission a Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan ("Progress Report") which is contained in the attachment to the 2015 Report.⁴
3. The information contained in attachment for which the Company seeks the withholding from public inspection is the entirety of data pertaining to the Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment. Information of this nature is confidential commercial information routinely withheld from public inspection.

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459.

² 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(b)(1) through (9).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313(a)(1).

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547 South Oakview Lane
Bountiful, UT 84010
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124

4. With respect to identifying the degree to which the subject attachment concerns a service that is subject to competition, the information is of a financial and competitive nature regarding the provision of telecommunications services. The Line 112 attachment contains competitively sensitive information related to proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance the Company's network.

In its *March 5, 2013 Order*, the FCC. The FCC specified that for rate-of-return carriers, the five-year plans "should describe the carrier's network improvement plan, which should provide greater visibility into current plans to extend broadband service to unserved locations in rate-of-return service territories."⁵ The Company's Progress Report updates this information as well as provides maps and detailed information as to whether or not network improvement objectives were achieved at the wire center level. Accordingly, because the Company is a rate-of-return carrier, it must file Progress Reports which contain proprietary, competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network including the specific locations of customers as well as describe proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance of its network throughout its service area. Specifically, this information sets forth services provided by the Company over its existing network including specific locations of customers as well as planned network improvement and maintenance for the years 2015 through 2019 including project start and completion dates, population that will be impacted by the improvements and upgrades at the wire center level and projected capital costs associated with the improvements and upgrades and operating costs associated with maintaining the network including depreciation for investments that have already been made. As such, this information contains competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network as well as detailed plans at the wire center level for network upgrades and maintenance projected for the years 2015 through 2019.

5. With respect to identifying possible exposure to competitive harm, the information contained in the Line 112 attachment is information that is not customarily released to the public. This information is proprietary to the Company, is unique to the Company's serving territory and is only known to the Company and its authorized agents. If the Information is not protected, it would have economic value to potential competitors who would be able to target their marketing to specific customers. In a competitive telecommunications marketplace, this type of information is highly sensitive. If publicly disclosed, it would enable competitors to craft business plans that capitalize on their knowledge of the locations of the Company's customers which would place the Company at a competitive disadvantage.

⁵ See *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket 10-90 *et al.*, Order, DA 13-332 (rel. Mar. 5, 2013) ("*March 5, 2013 Order*") at para 9 citing Section 54.202(a) (1) (ii).

6. With respect to steps the Company has taken to ensure against unauthorized disclosure of the information contained in the attachment, the Company is filing the attachment under seal. The Company uses the information contained in the Five-Year Plan to ensure that its customers continue to receive state-of-the-art high quality telecommunications and broadband services that the Company has been providing to them for many years as well as to satisfy mandatory reporting requirements and does not share the information for which protection is sought. The Company protects the secrecy of this information with a security protocol that ensures the information is not inadvertently disclosed or disseminated. Only directors, managers and employees with a direct need to know are authorized to access the information.
7. Any previous versions of this information are not publicly available.
8. Because the information is not routinely available, a need exists for maintaining the confidentiality of this information permanently.
9. Not applicable.

Based on the preceding, JSI respectfully requests on behalf of the Company that the Commission grant confidential treatment under Section 0.459 to Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

<010> Study Area Code 250290
<015> Study Area Name FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020> Program Year 2016
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data Fred Johnson
<035> Contact Telephone Number: 2566382144 ext. Number of the person identified in data line <030>
<039> Contact Email Address: fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com Email of the person identified in data line <030>

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS		54.313 Completion Required	54.422 Completion Required
		(check box when complete)	
<100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<200> Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <-- check box if no outages to report		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) 0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<310> Detail on Attempts (voice)	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) 0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<330> Detail on Attempts (broadband)	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410> Fixed 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<420> Mobile 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<440> Fixed 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<450> Mobile 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510> 250290AL510.pdf	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600> Functionality in Emergency Situations	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610> 250290AL610.pdf	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700> Company Price Offerings (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<710> Company Price Offerings (broadband)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<800> Operating Companies and Affiliates	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	(if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability Certification	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1010>	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Yes or No)	(if not, check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1110>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet			
Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers			
<2000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<2005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet			
<3000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<3005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<110> Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC? (yes / no) ☐ ☒

If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5

<111> year plan" filed with the FCC? (yes / no) ☐ ☐

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

250290AL112.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets
- <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received
- <115> How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality
- <116> How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage
- <117> How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity
- <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Not Applicable

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(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

[illegible]

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**(700) Price Offerings Including Voice Rate Data
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2015
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

[illegible]

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(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

[illegible]

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(800) Operating Companies
Data Collection Form
FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

[illegible]

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**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

[illegible]

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**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<1120> Please confirm whether terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g) (Yes, No).

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
Lifeline
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP <http://farmerstel.com/phone/lifeline/>

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <1221> | Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1222> | Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1223> | Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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[2000] Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

Data Collection Form

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers.

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	
<020>	Program Year	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	2016
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	Fred Johnson
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
		fjohnson@staff.farmersatci.com

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)i}
- <2011a> 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii}
- <2011b> Attachment {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii}

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)}

- <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(1)}
- <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(2)}
- <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(3)}
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)}

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

- <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

- <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
- <2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification
- <2019> Interim Progress Certification
- <2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

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(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation

Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 250290
 <015> Study Area Name FARMERS TELECOM COOP
 <020> Program Year 2016
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Fred Johnson
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 2566382144 ext.
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
 Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))

250290AL3010.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3011) Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year. ☒

250290AL3012.pdf

(3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))

(Yes/No)

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) ☒

(3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☒

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

250290AL3017.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications ☐

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3021) Management letter and audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit ☐

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers, ☐

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant ☐

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification. ☐

(3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-9935/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2011

<010> Study Area Code	250290
<015> Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	250290
<015> Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date 06/19/2015
Printed name of Authorized Officer: James Johnson	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CEO	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 2566382144 ext. 2017	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 250290	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	250290
<015> Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: _____	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Signature of Authorized Officer: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Officer: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

ATTACHMENT - LINE 112

**Five-Year Network Improvement Plan and
Progress Report**

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY

Demonstration of Compliance with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules:

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make “a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers.”² The Commission found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA’s Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement” and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis.³ In this context, the FCC stated, “to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement.”⁴

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (“FTC or Company”) hereby certifies that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff pursuant to the requirements of The State of Alabama and the Alabama Public Service Commission which disclose rates, terms and conditions of service to customers; (2) adherence to state consumer protection requirements governing telephone providers which prescribe standards for quality of service, privacy of communications ,

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) (“*2005 ETC Order*”).

² *Id.* at para. 28.

³ *Id.* The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: “(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy.” *Id.* at n. 71.

⁴ *Id.* at n. 72.

network security, trouble reporting, complaint and dispute resolution, public safety and other matters related to the public interest; (3) truth-in-billing requirements; and (4) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy. It should be noted that under Alabama Law, FTC voluntarily elected to retain Alabama Public Service Commission jurisdiction over consumer dispute resolution for both regulated and non-regulated services.

The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in F.C.C. 47 C.F.R. Part 8 §8.3. Furthermore, The Company will comply with all requirements set forth in the 2015 Open Internet Order when it becomes effective.

Line 610

FTC's network architecture is fundamentally constructed in a geographical ring topology allowing redundant feeds to its various serving wire centers. This redundant architecture affords additional protection against artificial interruptions in circuitry. FTC maintains and audits its electrical grounding policies and practices in keeping with industry best practices and RUS rules at all levels of its network and outside plant facilities.

All serving wire centers are equipped with battery backup facilities and, depending on the size of the wire center, auxiliary generation facilities. FTC maintains a fleet of backup generators for deployment to those wire centers that do not economically justify self contained stand-by power facilities. FTC further maintains larger auxiliary generators for deployment to a remote site in the event of a failure of auxiliary power facilities. This essentially provides two layers of protection against a loss of the primary electrical service. All auxiliary power facilities are subject to routine periodic testing and maintenance. The last significant actual deployment of these facilities was in April of 2011 when massive tornadoes struck our service territory and the entire power grid of Northeast Alabama operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority was negatively impacted. FTC's facilities were of such a dependable nature that it hosted the local Emergency Management Agency's command center for more than half a month due to the instability of the power grid.

FTC consistently monitors the state of its network facilities on a 24/7 basis. Alarms or outages are immediately routed to responsible network personnel ensuring that any matter requiring attention is addressed promptly and in an appropriate manner.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date
<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

1/1/2015

<703>

[illegible]

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0985/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

[illegible]

2

(800) Operating Companies
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	250290
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Fred Johnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2566382144 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmeratel.com
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

[illegible]

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 250290)

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. hereby certifies that throughout 2014, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, and currently, it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream broadband service at with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time.

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 250290)

**Response to Line 3012 - List of Community Anchor Institutions to Which the ETC Newly
Began Providing Service**

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. did not newly begin providing community anchor institutions with access to broadband service in calendar year 2014.

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY